July 16, 2007

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Dear Sirs:

One year ago, we purchased 200 acres of vacant land on the Two Hearted River in Northern Luce County. This property had been owned by Michigan Pole & Tie: an old time logging company: for use by their guests, for hunting and fishing. After the logging in the area declined, this property was sold off. In the late 1960's the property was sold to private individuals, who only used one side of the property.

Before we purchased the property, we checked old Platt Books, Road Maps, and Topography Maps. These all showed a short road across state land, which had been used by Michigan Pole & Tie. After purchasing the property, we had a select logging operation. A new 400 ft road way was granted by the DNR to facilitate the logging operation. After logging operation was completed this road way had to filled with stumps and burned at either end so that any further use by us was denied.

We then asked for recognition of the original driveway along with permission to clear brush to a usable width. This was request was denied due to the limited use over the last 20 years. Even though the roadbed was clearly visible, and it was admitted that 4 - wheelers were still using this road.

What value can a land lock piece of property add to the tax base? With only 20 percent of our land in private ownership. This is a critical issue. Our state prospered years ago when it wasn't being choked by all of these overly restrictive laws. Had this policy been in place 30 years ago, where would down state developments be today? Lets not forget that we humans have a place in this environment too.

Maybe it is time for the state to sell off some of its tax reverted lands.

Very Truly yours,

Fred Dunkeld





